

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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R 300910Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6440

S E C R E T BUCHAREST 0535

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR EEWT MASS RO

SUBJ: MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER: MILITARY AND SPACE
RELATED EQUIPMENT

REF: BUCHAREST 0115 (1975), STATE 287517

1. AMBASSADOR MET WITH FOREIGN MINISTER MACOVESCU
JANUARY 29 TO REVIEW ESSENTIALS OF HIS DISCUSSION WITH
GENERAL COMAN REPORTED REFTEL, WITH WHICH MACOVESCU
SAID HE WAS FAMILIAR. IN ASSURING MACOVESCU OF THE
SERIOUS CONSIDERATION THE USG WAS ACCORDING THE GOR REQUEST
FOR MILITARY EQUIPMENT, HE NOTED THERE WERE A VARIETY OF
OBSTACLES RELATED TO LEGISLATIVE RESTRICTIONS AS WELL AS
BROADER QUESTIONS OF POLICY WITH WHICH WE WERE STILL
GRAPPLING. HE SAID HE WAS NOT AT ALL CERTAIN ALL
WOULD BE OVERCOME, BUT THAT IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IN
REACHING A FINAL DECISION TO UNDERSTAND BETTER THE GOR
RATIONALE FOR HAVING DECIDED TO TRY TO DEVELOP A RELATION-
SHIP WITH US IN THIS SENSITIVE AREA. HE ADDED THAT WE
WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE HAVING ANY APPRAISAL THE GOR WISHED
TO SHARE ON THE POLITICAL IMPACT SUCH A DECISION WOULD
HAVE ON ROMANIAN RELATIONSHIPS WITH ITS SOVIET NEIGHBOR.

2. MACOVESCU QUICKLY RESPONDED THAT THE GOR REQUEST TO THE
USG FOR MILITARY EQUIPMENT POSED "NO PROBLEMS" FOR THE
ROMANIANS. HE COULD WELL UNDERSTAND THE DIFFICULTIES AND
PROBLEMS SUCH A RELATIONSHIP MIGHT CREATE FOR THE USG,

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HOWEVER. HE AGREED THAT OUR REQUEST FOR AMPLIFICATION ON

THE GOR DECISION MERITED A RESPONSE AND SUGGESTED THAT FOLLOWING THE AMBASSADOR'S RETURN FROM MOSCOW THEY MEET TO DISCUSS THE ISSUE IN DETAIL.

3. THE AMBASSADOR ALSO BRIEFED MACOVESCU ON DEVELOPMENTS PERTAINING TO THE GOR REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE IN THE FIELD OF SPACE EXPLORATION. MACOVESCU AGREED THAT GIVEN THE NATURE OF THE GOR REQUEST AND OUR REQUIREMENT FOR FURTHER TECHNICAL DETAILS AND END USE INFORMATION IT MADE SENSE FOR THE GOR TO GET THE INFORMATION TO US SOON AND TO CONSIDER SENDING A MISSION TO THE US FOR FURTHER EXPLORATORY TALKS.
VIETS

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